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Message Text

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64
ACTION INT-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COA-01 L-02 /021 W
---------- 038956
R 141828Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8308

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 02383

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TBIO, SENV, UK
SUBJECT: ENFORCEMENT OF WILDLIFE LAWS

REF: STATE 27982

1. RESPONSIBILITY IN UK FOR ENFORCEMENT OF WILDLIFE LAWS RESTS WITH THE HOME OFFICE. THEY HAVE INFORMED THE EMBASSY THAT THEY HAVE NO RECORD OF PERMITS BEING ISSUED TO JEFFREY ALLEN MITCHELL OR ERIC MARDEN TO ALLOW CAPTURE OF THE PEREGRINE FALCON IN THE UK FOR FOR THE IMPORT OF IT OR THE BOOTED EAGLE (WHICH IS NOT FOUND IN THE UK) FROM ABROAD. ACCORDING TO KNIGHT OF THE WILDLIFE DIVISION, HOME OFFICE, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT MITCHELL EITHER BRED THEM IN THE UK HIMSELF OR WAS GIVEN THEM BY SOMEONE WHO HAD PERMITS FOR THESE BIRDS. AS THE UK DOES NOT REQUIRE EXPORT PERMITS FOR BIRDS, THE HOME OFFICE DOES NOT CONSIDER THE BIRDS TO HAVE BEEN UNLAWFULLY EXPORTED. THEREFORE, KNIGHT DOES NOT FEEL THERE HAS BEEN ANY VIOLATION OF ENGLISH LAW. IF US OFFICIALS CAN SHOW THAT MITCHELL DID OBTAIN THE BIRDS IN THE UK ILLEGALLY THEY WILL BE HAPPY TO REVIEW THEIR POSITION.

2. KNIGHT ADVISES THAT AS THE HOME OFFICE HAS NO RECORD OF THESE BIRDS, THEY WOULD DEFINITELY NOT REPEAT NOT WANT THEM RETURNED IF CONFISCATION OCCURS.

3. ROGER UPTON WHO IS ON THE HOME OFFICE'S ADVISORY BOARD ON WILDLIFE LAW ENFORCEMENT HAS, IN THE PAST,
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BEEN GRANTED SEVERAL LICENSES TO IMPORTPEREGRINE FALCONS

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INTO THE UK. THERE IS NO RECORD, HOWEVER, OF ANY
PERMITS BEING GRANTED HIM FOR THE IMPORT OF BOOTED
EAGLES. OWING TO UPTON'S POSITION AND THE PROBABILITY
THAT A RECENT APPLICATION OF HIS FOR IMPORT OF FALCONS
IS GOING TO BE DENIED, KNIGHT FEELS THAT AN APPROACH
TO UPTON FOR FURTHER INFORMATION WOULD NOT BE ADVISABLE.

SPIERS

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